

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re U.S. Patent Application of )  
MUKAIDA et al. )  
Application Number: 10/567,681 )  
Filed: February 9, 2006 )  
For: POLYPEPTIDE SPECIFIC TO LIVER CANCER )  
POLYNUCLEOTIDE CODING FOR THE )  
POLYPEPTIDE, AND RNA MOLECULE )  
INHIBITING EXPRESSION OF THE POLYPEPTIDE )  
Attorney Docket No. ORIO.0002 )

Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Applicant has amended the claims in order to eliminate the multiple dependent claims in accordance with standard U.S. practice. Prior to an examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows: